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Thursday, November 1, 2012



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WINS
\$1,000 UP TO \$25,000

0%
—FINANCING ON—
2013
SELECT MODELS



2013
SORENTO



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2013 SORENTO

OWN IT FROM
\$158*
BI-WEEKLY

WITH
\$0
DOWN

AT
1.49%
APR

FOR UP TO
60
MONTHS

ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY*

Sorento SX shown[△]

INCLUDES

EVERYBODY WINS \$1,000

0% FINANCING ON 2013 SELECT MODELS**

OFFER ENDS NOVEMBER 30TM

EVERYBODY WINS \$1,000

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **\$0 DOWN PAYMENT**, \$8,070 remaining balance.

Offer includes delivery, destination, PPSA and fees of \$1,829, **\$500 LOAN SAVINGS\$** and **\$1,000 EVERYBODY WINS SAVINGS*** **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF \$28,724.**

Offer based on 2013 Sorento LX AT.

—OR—

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SALE PRICE
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MONTHS

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Representative financing example based on 2013 Rio 5 LX MT (F0551D) [includes \$1,000 Everybody Wins savings, delivery and destination fees (\$145), PPSA, other fees and certain levies (including tire levers) and A/C charge (\$100, where applicable)] financed at 0% APR for 36 months, 78 bi-weekly payments equal \$189 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade off of \$0. License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to \$69) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. •Every eligible contestant will win (subject to correctly answering a skill-testing question) an Instant Win prize consisting of a discount in an amount from \$1,000 to \$10,000 towards the purchase or lease of any new 2012 or 2013 Kia vehicle. One Grand Prize consisting of a \$25,000 cheque will be randomly awarded from among all eligible contestants at the conclusion of the contest. No purchase necessary. Contest open to Canadian residents with a valid driver's license over the age of majority. Odds of winning vary by prize and by region. See kia.ca or your participating Kia dealer for complete contest rules. •Bi-weekly financing option (or approved credit) for new 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR7380)/2013 Sorento LX MT (SR7500)/2013 Forte Sedan LX MT (F0540D) based on a selling price of \$28,724/\$30,624/\$17,529 is \$158/\$169/\$91 with an APR of 1.49%/1.49%/0.9% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of \$8,070/\$8,635/\$4,683 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Offer includes a down payment of \$0, \$1,000 Everybody Wins savings, \$500 loan savings, \$500 cash savings, \$1,000 Everybody Wins savings, delivery and destination fees (\$1650/\$1,650/\$1,455), PPSA, other fees and certain levies (including tire levers) and A/C charge (\$100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to \$69) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. •Loan savings for 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR7380)/2013 Sorento LX MT (F0540D) is \$500 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit. Loan savings vary by model and trim and are deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. Some conditions apply. •Cash purchase price for 2012 Rondo LX with AC (RN750C) is \$16,574, which includes a cash savings of \$5,250 (which is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers) and \$1,000 Everybody Wins savings. Includes delivery and destination fees of \$1,650, PPSA, other fees and certain levies (including tire levers) and A/C charge (\$100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to \$69) and registration fees are extra. Based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2012 Rondo LX with AC (\$22,824). Retailer may sell for less. Available at participating dealers. See dealer for full details. •\$5,250 cash savings on the cash purchase of an eligible new 2012 Rondo LX with AC (RN750C) from a participating dealer between November 1 - November 30, 2012. Cash savings is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. •Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento 3.5L SX AWD (SR750D)/2013 Forte SX Luxury AT (FOX40D)/2012 Rondo EX V6 Luxury (RN750C) is \$43,045/\$27,150/\$28,945. Includes delivery and destination fees of \$1,650/\$1,650/\$1,650 and A/C charge (\$100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, other fees and certain levies (including tire levers), variable dealer administration fees (up to \$69) and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. Available at participating dealers. See dealer for full details. The First Time Vehicle Buyer Program offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance a select new 2012/2013 Rio 4 door, 2012/2013 Rio 5 door, 2012/2013 Forte Sedan, 2012/2013 Forte 5, 2012/2013 Forte Koup, or 2012/2013 Soul. Eligible purchase finance customers will receive a credit in the amount of five hundred dollars towards the purchase of their new vehicle. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends January 2nd, 2013. The Bluetooth® word mark and logo are registered trademarks and are owned by Bluetooth SIG, Inc. Some conditions apply to the \$500 Grad Rebate Program. See dealer or kia.ca for details. 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Super Sandy soaking

Superstorm Sandy lost steam Wednesday but not before giving Nova Scotia a good drenching PAGE 17

FLY BOY

DENZEL WASHINGTON SOARS TO GREAT HEIGHTS WITH HIS COMPLEX ROLE IN FLIGHT

PAGE 17



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Thursday, November 1, 2012



COPS KNOW MOS

Halifax Regional Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais, left, and RCMP Insp. Martin Marin shave off their facial hair at the Halifax Law Courts in preparation for Movember. Last year the judges and lawyers of Nova Scotia raised \$105,000 for prostate-cancer research, and this year they've expanded their team to include other members of the justice system.

Story, page 3. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Financial help is on the way

New law to protect debt-laden Nova Scotians from ruthless collection agencies PAGE 4

Above-the-lip service

Leading man's facial hair may be the difference between a hit movie and a bomb PAGE 19

Rainmen reloaded

Halifax basketball team promises a mean offensive punch PAGE 30

Big bucks from Savage supporters

Transparency

movement. Mayor-elect raised nearly \$342K in campaign donations

Quoted

"I'd consider that a successful campaign."

Mayor-elect Mike Savage on his campaign contributions

HRM's mayor-elect Mike Savage is touting the release of his campaign contributions as his first step towards improved transparency at city hall.

The contributions, released Wednesday, reveal a lengthy list of donors from a wide range of occupations and political stripes.

The campaign raised \$306,805 in cash and \$35,565 in in-kind donations, shattering the goal of about \$250,000, said Savage.

"I wanted people to know that before I'm sworn in as mayor, this is the list of people who gave to my campaign, and I'm appreciative to them for supporting me, but I'm going to make decisions in the best

cil to look at imposing limits on donations and spending, and also bar incumbents from raising money between elections.

"There's a fair amount of money at stake and it should be more tightly regulated," said Savage, adding that he's vowed not to collect campaign funds before the 2016 election.

Topping the in-kind contribution list was Ryan Duffy's at \$5,000, polling company Corporate Research Associates at \$4,950 and \$4,790 from MMP Office Interiors Inc.

CRA conducted polls throughout the election, but it contributed services to Savage's campaign before the starting gun sounded, said company CEO Don Mills.

"We did polling for Savage's team prior to his announcement to run," said Mills in an email.

The complete list of contributions is online at mikesavage.ca/donation_list

ALY THOMSON/METRO

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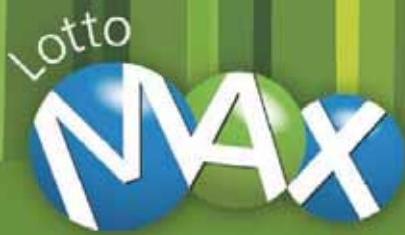
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Election. Barkhouse bows out, will not seek recount

A councillor who was declared the winner and then the loser in a closely fought battle between incumbents for the Halifax council seat in District 3 will not ask for a recount.

Coun. Jackie Barkhouse confirmed in an email Wednesday that she would not be seeking a judicial review after losing the election to Coun. Bill Karsten by 68 votes.

Barkhouse had initially been declared the winner on Oct. 20 — election night — by six votes.

But a review held three days later revealed a discrepancy in the results from one poll, tipping the scale in Karsten's favour.

"I will miss the people most of all," said Barkhouse while speaking at Tuesday's council meeting. "I wish the new mayor and the new council ... all the best in your turn in office. It has been my extreme pleasure to serve and I thank you for that opportunity."

Karsten, who was first elected to council in 2004, accepted the victory without fanfare.



Bill Karsten in a file photo. METRO

"I am surprised at the councillor's decision not to apply for a recount. However, it was her decision to make and I will respect that," Karsten said in an email on Tuesday. "It is now time to roll up the sleeves and work for all the residents of the new District 3."

ALY THOMSON/METRO



1 NEWS

Shaving down for Movember

Prostate cancer.

Lawyer's personal story inspires colleagues to grow 'staches in November



ANDREW RANKIN

andrew.rankin@metronews.ca

Mitch LeBlanc showed no signs of having prostate cancer last year when he got a simple blood test just to be sure.

But six weeks later, the 50-year-old had surgery to remove his cancerous prostate. He's now finishing radiation treatment for the cancer that

spread throughout his body.

Luckily, his prognosis is very good, but the experience rattled LeBlanc and his wife to such an extent that they've taken their story public.

For the second straight year, they've launched their own Movember challenge to raise money for prostate cancer research — and to urge men to get tested.

"Have your PSA (prostate-specific antigen) test," said LeBlanc. "It's just a blood test. Insist on it, especially if you're in your late fifties."

LeBlanc's wife, lawyer Rebecca Hiltz LeBlanc, has challenged judges, lawyers and police officers to grow their best 'staches while raising as much

Diagnosis

26,500

The number of men who will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in Canada this year.

as possible for the cause.

A few brave volunteers started things off at the Law Courts in Halifax Wednesday with a shave for the cameras.

"It's hard to talk about, and it's an easy thing to stick your head in the sand over and hope that everything will be OK," said Hiltz LeBlanc.

Among the volunteers submitting to the razor were

Halifax Regional Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais and RCMP inspector Martin Marin.

Marin said his father and brother have both been treated for prostate cancer.

"People don't realize just how important it is to get tested," said Marin. "It's a simple blood test."

Peter Mallette, executive director of Prostate Cancer Canada's Atlantic region, lauded the couple's effort. He's also encouraged by the growing number of younger men joining the campaign, even if they're more concerned with their mustache than the cause.

"They're making a connection to the importance of being healthy," he said.

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For sale: Shuttered school

Restart. Non-profit groups ready to bid on St. Patrick's-Alexandra



Quoted

"We couldn't be happier."

Jane Moloney, executive director, North End Community Health Centre

The executive director of a non-profit health centre says a council decision that re-starts the sale of the former St. Patrick's-Alexandra school property is "exactly what we wanted."

Jane Moloney of the North End Community Health Centre says the groups hoping to win the bidding will now turn their attention to the consultation process to ensure it is run fairly and effectively.

On Tuesday, regional council voted against appealing a Supreme Court ruling that voided the sale of the school to a private developer. The vote ends an almost year-long battle between three north-end community groups — including Moloney's — and the municipality, which had previously approved the sale of the property to Jono Developments Ltd. for \$3 million.

According to a staff report released during a council meeting Tuesday, public meetings will be held before the municipality requests proposals for the site. Then, any non-profit groups that express interest will have 90 days to submit a proposal.

The submission must include a five-year business plan, the group's financial statements, the financial terms for purchase or lease of the property, and an outline of the types of services the group plans to offer, the report said.

"What we've always wanted was to do that without it having to be in a competitive tendering process against commercial development," said Moloney.

The city will refund the deposit that Jono had paid on the property. Jono owner Joe Metlege had said he'd take the municipality to court if the sale didn't go through, but declined comment on Wednesday.



Ooooooooooooooo! ... Pizza

Grade 5 and 6 students at St. Mary's Elementary in Halifax high-five younger students during a Halloween costume parade at the school on Wednesday afternoon. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Province unveils bill to protect debt-laden citizens

The province has introduced legislation to protect debt-laden Nova Scotians from ruthless collection agencies and phony debt management outfits.

The bill, unveiled by Minister of Service Nova Scotia John MacDonell Wednesday, prohibits collection agencies from contacting a debtor more than three times a week.

Debt management companies must register with the province and can no longer charge up-front fees.



John MacDonell METRO HALIFAX FILE

All fees will also be capped.

A written contract between the company and client must be signed before work would be done.

The changes are also meant to protect companies in the industry.

"We want to balance the people who owe with the rights of people who are owed," said MacDonell.

Don MacKinnon, president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau Atlantic region, agreed with the approach.

"If you don't have a busi-

ness address, you don't deal with them," MacKinnon said.

He said his organization routinely hears from people who have been cheated out of thousands of dollars by fraudulent debt management companies.

Along with helping to protect consumers, MacKinnon said he hopes the new law will bring more awareness to a growing problem.

"We've been seeing it for ages," he said.

"With the growth of so-

cial media, more and more people are being contacted by unscrupulous debt settlement people and credit card fixers. It's a lot of pain and a lot of suffering."

Three other provinces have introduced similar debt management legislation.

It's expected to take six months before the legislation comes into effect.

The proposed legislation includes several other provisions, which range from requiring collection agen-

Hefty

- Fines under new rules.** Collection agencies that break the new rules face fines of up to \$25,000 for individuals to \$300,000 for corporations.

cies to give notice before taking legal action against debtors to restrictions on false and misleading advertising. ANDREW RANKIN/METRO

Crack cocaine

Traffic stop nets drugs, weapons

Charges were laid after a traffic stop that turned up drugs and weapons. Officers seized crack cocaine and a long-barrel firearm from the car. Charles Robert Lawrence is facing a dozen charges for drug and weapons possession and breaching a recognizance. METRO

Dartmouth mugging

Man facing robbery charges

Regional police have arrested a Halifax man in connection with a weekend robbery. A 24-year-old man was attacked by two men who then stole some jewelry near an NSLC. Matthew Coaker is facing charges of robbery and breaching court orders. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Five arrested

'Bath salts' bust

Police in Pictou County have arrested five people in a 'bath salts' drug bust. Officers stopped a car Tuesday and seized marijuana, 'bath salts' and hydro-morphone. Two men and a woman were arrested. Wednesday, police raided a home in Eureka and arrested two. NEW GLASGOW NEWS

Collection contract

Stop outsourcing services: Union

The union for outside workers in HRM is criticizing the outgoing council for extending a waste collection contract un-tendered. A release from CUPE says the HRM should take a "serious look" at bringing the service back in-house. METRO



CUPE wants garbage collection services brought in-house in HRM.

CONTRIBUTED

Malfunction

Centennial Pool back in business

Centennial Pool will be open at 3:30 p.m. Thursday after a malfunction that virtually drained the pool. Crews found that a power outage sometime Monday night caused by bad weather led to a valve malfunction that allowed water to escape. METRO

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*Comparing the shared HSPA+ network available from TELUS to the public disclosure of 4G network coverage of other provincial service providers for October 2012. © 2012 TELUS.

Antigonish diocese. \$16M sexual-abuse settlement comes to a close

The Diocese of Antigonish will try to close a dark chapter in its history this week as it wraps up a sex-abuse settlement with 125 people.

The final instalment of a \$16-million compensation settlement for confirmed and alleged victims of sexual abuse is due Thursday, ending a long legal process spearheaded by Ronald Martin.

Martin launched a class-action lawsuit against the diocese after his brother wrote a suicide note in 2002 alleging Hugh Vincent MacDonald, a priest, sexually abused him.

MacDonald was charged with sex-related offences in 2003 but died a year later, before the court process concluded.

Martin's concerns prompted dozens of people to come forward with similar allegations dating back more than 60 years against several priests who worked for the diocese.

"This has been a very long and difficult process and Ron Martin took this on his shoulders," said Halifax lawyer John McKiggan, who represented the plaintiffs.

"Ron ... felt not only the obligation to fulfil a promise to his brother, but also the



Ronald Martin launched a class-action lawsuit against the Antigonish diocese. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

obligation he undertook on behalf of all the class members."

Martin did not return messages seeking comment.

Rev. Donald MacGillivray, a spokesman for the diocese, said the settlement has become a significant financial burden for the diocese.

"People have found this really difficult. The whole thing has been terribly distasteful," he said.

"The fact that the diocese had to do this in the first place, that these wrongdoings occurred in the first place, has really been difficult for people."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fisheries Department. Dexter to review lease deal after concerns raised

Premier Darrell Dexter has unexpectedly put the brakes on an unentered lease that would have moved the provincial Fisheries Department from Halifax to the Annapolis Valley.

Dexter says he is reviewing the move to Cornwallis after the opposition parties questioned whether the 10-year lease, which would have cost \$289,000 annually, was a wise use of public money.

"I have the same questions that have been raised by everyone else," said Dexter. "I want the file back to have a look at it just to make sure that everyone is comfortable that this is the best arrangement."

Dexter's comments came shortly after Fisheries Minister Sterling Belliveau defended the lease as a good deal for taxpayers.

Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil said the government should have issued a tender to ensure that it was getting fair market value.

He also said he didn't buy the ministers' explanation that there needed to be a quick timeline.

"This is a government

New home?

Twenty jobs were set to move with the fisheries headquarters, which would also share space in Cornwallis with regional staff from Agriculture and Natural Resources.

that decided it was going to move departments overnight without any thought to what it meant to movement of labour forces or whether or not they are going to save money," said McNeil on Tuesday. "They are now in a race to get it done before the next election. That's what this is about."

Progressive Conservative MLA Chris d'Entremont said there would be additional costs incurred because the government still holds the lease for the property it is vacating in Halifax.

"Who is going to be paying for that space while it sits vacant? We are — the taxpayers of Nova Scotia," said d'Entremont.

The new office is expected to open next summer.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Cars make their way through a flooded section of Waverley Road in Dartmouth on Wednesday. Halifax received heavy rain from former-hurricane Sandy as the remnants of the superstorm tracked through the Maritimes. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Something big and wicked this way came

Impact. Sandy cooks up frightful mess of weather for Halloween in Nova Scotia

RUTH DAVENPORT
ruth.davenport@metronews.ca

Superstorm Sandy is finally losing steam, after giving Nova Scotia a good drenching.

Sandy brushed the province as it moved over Ontario on Wednesday, prompting a blanket of rainfall warnings from Yarmouth to Port Hawkesbury.

"Even though Sandy's remnants are post-tropical over eastern Ontario, it's such a large storm that we were getting a tropical moisture feed indirectly related," said En-

Help sought

"We've had our crews out there and they're doing their best, but sometimes it means that they're focusing on the main thoroughfares and not on the neighbourhood streets."

Shaune MacKinlay, HRM spokesperson

vironment Canada meteorologist Carmen Hartt on Wednesday. "So that's what brought all this instability and moisture to the Maritimes today."

Hartt said 45.5 mm of rain had been recorded at Halifax Stanfield International Airport by 3 p.m. Wednesday, far higher than normal for the time of year — approximately 4mm.

The pounding precipitation, accompanied by thunder and lightning, led to localized flooding and power outages.

The IWK Health Centre cancelled non-emergency surgeries

and appointments late Wednesday morning when backup generators failed to engage.

The regular power supply was re-established around 1 p.m., and ambulatory appointments will resume on Thursday.

Patients with scheduled surgeries or procedures will be contacted directly if there's a cancellation.

Spokesperson Nick Cox says the power outage was especially hard on inpatients looking forward to Halloween.

"Halloween is the biggest

day of the year here at the IWK, we had to postpone internal trick-or-treating," he said. "The kids worked on their costumes, and they couldn't parade around and get their candy!"

Localized flooding in metro was dealt with quickly as crews cleared blocked drains, and HRM officials are asking homeowners to keep nearby catch basins clear as the rain tapers off.

"We've had our crews out there and they're doing their best, but sometimes it means that they're focusing on the main thoroughfares and not on the neighbourhood streets," said HRM spokesperson Shaune MacKinlay. "That's where we could really benefit from some Good Samaritans who have an interest in keeping the streets clear of flooding."

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Vacationers. Tourists can finally get off Facebook and see a bit of the city

Museums, the Empire State Building, Broadway theatres and many stores reopened Wednesday to the relief of tourists who'd been stuck in hotel rooms since the weekend due to Superstorm Sandy. But parks, the 9-11 Memorial, the Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island and other top attractions remained shuttered.

"We tried to go to Central Park but it was closed," said Angela Walsh, who travelled from Lincoln, England, with her husband and two kids, as they took pictures at Rocke-



Commuters cross New York's Brooklyn Bridge Wednesday. Rush-hour traffic appeared heavier than on an ordinary day. RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

N.Y.C. Marathon

Disaster will be backdrop to run

The New York City Marathon is a go for Sunday. While logistical questions persist, one thing is certain: The 42-kilometre route will have a disaster for a backdrop. And a debate: Some say it pulls resources and focus away from people in need.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Alert over

Danger cools at N.J. nuclear plant

A nuclear power plant in New Jersey is no longer under an alert caused by Superstorm Sandy. The alert at Oyster Creek plant in Forked River was triggered as water rose outside the plant, threatening cooling equipment. It ended early Wednesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Storm victims in need of shelter and comfort

Bright side

"We are pleased because we are alive."

Tourist Martine Juillard of Paris, waiting with her daughters for the Abercrombie & Fitch store to open on Fifth Avenue

feller Center Wednesday morning, where the rink was opening for skating. She said they'd spent much of the last two days in their hotel room. "Thank God for Facebook," she added. "That kept them entertained." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New problems arise.

Blazes rekindled by natural-gas leaks destroy dozens of homes in N.J.

People along the battered U.S. East Coast took the first cautious steps to reclaim their daily routines Wednesday, even as the search for victims continued. Superstorm Sandy's death toll rose to at least 63.

The New York Stock Exchange came back to life, and two major New York airports reopened to begin the long process of moving stranded travellers around the world.

U.S. President Barack Obama landed in New Jersey, which was hardest hit by Monday's hurricane-driven storm, and he took a helicopter tour of the devastation with Gov. Chris Christie. "We're going to be here for the long haul," Obama told people at one emergency shelter.

For the first time since the storm pummeled the heavily populated U.S. northeast, doing billions of dollars in damage, brilliant sunshine washed over New York City, for a while.

At the stock exchange, running on generator power, Mayor Michael Bloomberg gave a thumbs-up and rang the opening bell to whoops from traders. Limited service on the subway will resume Thursday.

It was clear that restoring the region to its ordinarily frenetic pace could take days — and that rebuilding the hardest-hit communities and the transportation networks



U.S. President Barack Obama embraces Donna Vanzant during a tour Wednesday of a neighbourhood affected by Superstorm Sandy in Brigantine, N.J. Vanzant is an owner of North Point Marina, which was damaged by the storm. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

could take considerably longer.

About six million homes and businesses were still without power. In New Jersey, National Guard troops arrived in the heavily flooded city of Hoboken to help evacuate about 20,000 people still stuck in their homes and deliver ready-to-eat meals. Live wires dangled in floodwaters that Mayor Dawn Zimmer said were rapidly mixing with sewage.

Tempers flared. A man screamed at emergency of-

Unlikely bromance

U.S. President Barack Obama joined one of his top Republican critics to visit storm victims in New Jersey, giving Americans a high-profile display of presidential leadership.

- Gov. Chris Christie has been one of Mitt Romney's most prominent supporters, but he has been effusive in his praise of Obama's response to the storm.

ficials in Hoboken about why food and water had not been delivered to residents just a few blocks away. The man,

who would not give his name, said he blew up an air mattress to float over to a staging area.

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'Ow, it hurts' – shocking vids seen at teen's inquest

Caution: graphic content. Hooded Ashley Smith had her hands duct-taped to an airplane seat by prison guards

The haunting protests of a now-dead teenager filled a Toronto coroner's courtroom Wednesday.

Surveillance videos were screened showing the troubled inmate repeatedly tranquilized against her will or being threatened with having her face duct-taped.

The disturbing images of Ashley Smith — images finally released after a two-year fight — showed the 19-year-old at several points in the run-up to her October 2007 choking death in a prison cell in Kitchener, Ont.

"Ow, it hurts," a hooded Smith yells at one point as prison guards duct-tape her reddened hands to an air-



Ashley Smith is shown in this still image taken from a coroner's video. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

plane seat.

"Trust me: I am calm," she says in a thin voice at another point, as guards threaten her.

The airplane video, from April 2007, shows Smith's

transfer from a Saskatoon prison, where a guard had allegedly assaulted her by bashing her head into the floor.

Although she doesn't appear to be putting up much

resistance and she's wearing two "spit hoods" over her face, the guards duct-tape her hands to the arm rests.

The pilot then weighs in. "Don't bite me," he says.

Guards watched

Ashley Smith, 19, died Oct. 19, 2007, inside a segregation cell at the Grand Valley Institution for Women in Kitchener, Ont.

- **Horrible.** She choked herself to death with a strip of cloth while guards, instructed not to intervene, watched.

"I'm not," Smith responds. "It'll get worse if you do." "How can it get worse?" "I'll duct-tape your face."

Correctional Service Canada is fighting to narrow the scope of the inquest into her death, arguing the coroner has no jurisdiction to delve into the federal prison system.

"Don't let them get away with it," Julian Falconer, Smith's family lawyer, told presiding coroner, Dr. John Carlisle.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Grief. Hydro mourns one of its own, a storm victim

A hydro worker was killed Wednesday in southwestern Ontario while working on a power line damaged by Superstorm Sandy.

The worker, whose name was not released, was electrocuted while tending to a downed power line in Sarnia, said the labour ministry.

Bluewater Power CEO Janice McMichael Dennis said the death was an "unbelievable" surprise.

"As you can imagine his family is grieving and we are grieving here as his family," she said.

"It is an unspeakable tragedy."

Provincial Energy Minister Chris Bentley took to Twitter to extend his condolences to the worker's family.

"Thoughts and prayers with family of Hydro worker killed in Sarnia," Bentley wrote.

It was the second known death in Canada related to Sandy. A Toronto woman was killed by a falling sign on Monday.

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Flu vaccine gets all-clear: Was hold a little too hasty?

Flu season. Canada says Novartis is safe to use; Italy, which sparked worldwide fears, is now reviewing its decision to ban it

Health Canada lifted its hold on Novartis flu vaccines on Wednesday.

It said a review of the products reassured the department the vaccines are safe to use.

Switzerland, which also suspended use of the vaccines last week, followed suit.

And it was reported that even Italy, which was the first in a chain of countries to halt use of the Novartis vaccines, is now reviewing its decision, too.

In fact, a senior Health Canada official admitted the agency might never have



It's flu-shot season — and the Novartis vaccine has got the green light.

JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

put a hold on the products if it had had details last week about why its Italian counterpart had blocked delivery of Novartis vaccines in that country.

Health Canada was finally able to get those details from Italy on Tuesday and also used other sources of information to conduct a risk assessment on the products, sold in Canada under the names Fluad

and Agriflu.

It turned out that Italy had taken the action solely based on a report from Novartis that it had found an imperfect batch of vaccine made at its Siena, Italy, plant. Other batches were apparently OK.

The Novartis vaccines make up a total of 20 per cent of Canada's combined flu vaccine purchase this year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Don't blame Sandy

It's cleanup time in Toronto — and you can't put all the blame on Superstorm Sandy. While its torrential rains were causing havoc, a fierce fire broke out on the city's fashionable Queen Street West. A commercial building that housed apartments and a Roots store was destroyed. The cause is unknown. RENÉ JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Storm aftermath

Toronto offers N.Y.C. transit help

Toronto's transit bosses have offered to help New York get its transit service back on line.

The offer extends "to whatever they need — track, signal, structural, electrical expertise, vehicle engineers," said Toronto Transit Commission spokesperson Brad Ross.

Meanwhile, Toronto council voted to help New York City with its cleanup after Superstorm Sandy.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SPCA on alert

DIY surgery puts dogs at risk

Saskatchewan SPCA officials are worried by reports of people neutering their dogs with do-it-yourself surgery.

SPCA manager Kaley Pugh says she has seen five reports this year of dog owners using elastrator bands to neuter their male dogs, a practice usually found on the farm when castrating bulls.

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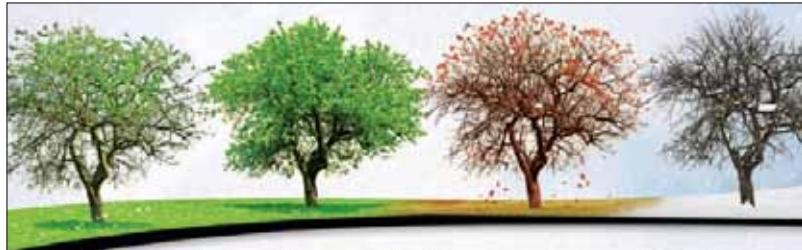
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Graphic Guns N' Roses ad stirs up controversy

Sin City. Promotional campaign lands Las Vegas city officials in hot water with victims of domestic abuse

A county commissioner in Las Vegas says she regrets the board temporarily renamed a street in honour of Guns N' Roses after finding out about the band's suggestive publicity artwork.

Ads promoting the band's four-week run at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino depict a disheveled woman who appears to be sexually assaulted beneath the iconic "Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas" sign.

"I hadn't seen the advertising before the media event," Commissioner Mary Beth Scow told the Las Vegas Sun.



Singer Axl Rose performs at the Hollywood Palladium.
JASON MERRITT/GETTY IMAGES

"It's clearly inappropriate. Maybe it's the risk of doing business with a rock band, but I guess we'll have some remorse over this decision. It's a lesson learned."

Scow represented Clark County at a ceremony Monday that renamed Paradise Road to Paradise City Road, after the band's famous 1987 song. Scow said she'd done her due diligence before the renaming, even listening to the song beforehand. She said she liked the line in the chorus, "Take me down to the paradise city, where the grass is green and the girls are pretty."

But she later learned about the graphic posters, which are a sanitized version of the much-criticized cover from Guns N' Roses' debut album "Appetite for Destruction."

An advocate for domestic violence victims said the county should rescind the street name change and the band and venue should apologize for using the image.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Halloween lobster is one in 50 million

This image, released by the New England Aquarium, shows a one-pound female lobster, known as a "split," that was caught by a Massachusetts fisherman last week. Officials say such rare Halloween colouration is estimated to occur once in every 50 million lobsters. EMILY BAUERNSEIND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Neglected

Wife dead, husband faces charges

The husband of a 400-pound (180-kilogram) U.S. woman has been charged with abuse after her recent death.

Authorities are accusing Michael Brooks of allowing

Yolanda Reese-Brooks to fester in a bed surrounded by her own waste. The 40-year-old woman died of morbid obesity and other injuries last week.

The prosecutor's office says Brooks was his wife's primary caretaker after she sustained a crushed pelvis and ruptured bladder in a 2011 car crash.

Brooks is charged with second-degree abuse of a vulnerable adult. Prosecutor Eric Smith says Brooks' conduct was "shameful." Reese-Brooks' four children are now living with a relative.

It's unknown if Brooks has a lawyer. He doesn't have a listed phone number.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Zac Vawter, fitted with a "bionic" leg, looks down Oct. 25 from the Willis Tower in Chicago. BRIAN KERSEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bionic leg faces tough 103-storey test drive

Future tech. Amputee will use brain-powered leg to climb one of the world's tallest skyscrapers

Zac Vawter considers himself a test pilot. After losing his right leg in a motorcycle accident, the 31-year-old software engineer signed up to become a research subject, helping to test a trail-blazing prosthetic leg that's controlled by his thoughts.

He will put this groundbreaking bionic leg to the ultimate test Sunday when he attempts to climb 103 flights of stairs to the top of Chicago's Willis Tower, one of the world's tallest skyscrapers.

If all goes well, he'll make history with the bionic leg's public debut. His whirring, robotic leg will respond to electrical impulses from

muscles in his hamstring. Vawter will think, "Climb stairs," and the motors, belts and chains in his leg will synchronize the movements of its ankle and knee. Vawter hopes to make it to the top in an hour, longer than it would've taken before his amputation, less time than it would take with his normal prosthetic leg — or, as he calls it, his "dumb" leg.

A team of researchers will be cheering him on and noting the smart leg's performance. When Vawter goes home to Yelm, Wash., where he lives with his wife and two children, the experimental leg will stay behind in Chicago. Researchers will continue to refine its steering. Taking it to the market is still years away.

Bionic arms have been available for a few years. Safety is important: if a bionic hand fails, a person

The goal

"Somewhere down the road, it will benefit me and I hope it will benefit a lot of other people as well."

Zac Vawter, about the research at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago

drops a glass of water. If a leg fails, a person falls down stairs.

The Willis Tower climb will be the bionic leg's first test in the public eye, said lead researcher Levi Hargrove of the institute's Center for Bionic Medicine.

The climb, called "Sky-Rise Chicago," is a fundraiser for the institute with about 2,700 people climbing. This is the first time the climb has played a role in the facility's research.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Financial planning

40% of Canadians relying on homes to fund retirement

About four in 10 respondents to a new BMO study say they aren't confident in their ability to save for retirement and the same number are relying on the value of their home to help fund their retirement.

BMO warns that using a home as a nest egg is a risky idea and that personal savings must play a role in retirement planning. The survey, conducted by Harris Decima, polled 1,002 people. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Recharge your brain and phone

Power up. Starbucks starts wireless charging program in U.S. stores

If Starbucks has its way, that double espresso might not be the only thing to give you a jolt the next time you visit.

The Seattle-based coffee chain has unveiled a wireless charging pilot program at 17 Boston-area stores. All Starbucks locations have had free Wi-Fi access since 2010.

The company didn't immediately respond to a Torstar News Service request for comment, but in a published report, executive Adam Brotman didn't rule out expansion of the wireless charging program to other Starbucks locations.

"Customers are coming into our stores every day with mobile devices, and putting them down on the table. If they could be charging their device at the same time, then we've connected with that customer and met their need, maybe even before they realized they had a need



In this July file photo, a cup of Starbucks coffee sits outside a shop in Cambridge, Mass. The chain's Boston-area stores now offer customers wireless charging for their mobile devices. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE**

for wireless charging," Brotman said in the report from the Boston Globe.

The wireless charging uses inductive chargers supplied by Duracell Powermat. While inductive charging has the advan-

tage of doing away with wires that people can trip over, there are a few disadvantages. In particular, inductive charging doesn't charge batteries up as quickly as standard plug-based charging. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

E-commerce . Canucks will buy one-fifth of holiday presents online

This holiday season, about 20 per cent of gift purchases in Canada are expected to be made online.

One in five presents bought via the web sounds like a sizable number, but compare that figure to the shopping habits of web-savvy Americans, Brits and Germans and it's actually tiny.

According to a recent eMarketer report, 90 per cent of Internet users in the U.K. expect to do some of their shopping online this year and half expect to do most of their buying through the web.

E-commerce could be a much, much larger trend in Canada if consumers had more places to shop online, says Rafe Petkovic, Google Canada's head of industry for retail.

The state of online shopping in Canada today is similar to what consumers in the United States, U.K. or Germany experienced in 2006 or 2007, Petkovic adds, with relatively few retailers to choose from, limited inventory selection and inconsistent shipping options.

"They are certainly markets that are very, very far advanced in comparison to some of the most nascent markets, of

Canadian challenges

- The country's vast geography and lack of population density are daunting to Canadian retailers looking to launch an online shop.

- Those factors make inventory management and the ability to offer inexpensive — or ideally free — shipping more challenging.

- Having a robust, secure e-commerce operation also requires a significant investment, which some companies have been reluctant to make.

which I think Canada is one," he says. "That's not to say it's going to take five to six years to get to a state of e-commerce sophistication, because the benefit that Canadian retailers have is they can steal with pride and learn the lessons that have been painfully learned by their peer set in other markets around the globe."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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or visit our website to apply online.

eastlink.ca

Economy declines for first time since February: StatsCan report

Canada's economic expansion came to a surprising halt in August, posting the first decline since February and setting the stage for the worst quarter of economic activity in more than a year.

Real gross domestic product shrank by 0.1 per cent over the month, with both temporary and fundamental factors taking the steam out of what economists had expected to be a relatively healthy 0.2 per cent advance.

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty cautioned against

Quoted

"The most disturbing thing about the report is the breadth of declines across so many different sectors."

Scotiabank economist Derek Holt

overreacting to the one-month setback, saying the economy is growing. "It is one month," he told reporters on his way into a

Conservative party caucus. "There is some weakness in Europe certainly, and the American recovery is slow. We are going to see variations month-to-month, but overall for the year we are on track with GDP growth."

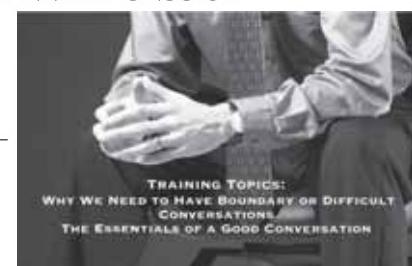
But with contractions in 10 out of 18 industrial sectors, including the big ones of manufacturing, construction, mining and oil and gas extraction, "this is no fluke," said Bank of Montreal economist Doug Porter.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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BELIEVING IN STAR WARS IS SO DARNED GOOFY



HE SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Finally, there's going to be a fourth Star Wars movie! After almost three decades! Wow!

It's hard to believe there's been nothing since Return of the Jedi, back in 1983! Because there hasn't been. Nothing. *Nothing*. Understand? There have been no prequels, no tampering with the trilogy, no terrible cartoons. Understand?

Good. And if I hear the word midi-chlorian out of you, it won't just be Greedo shooting first. Got it?

Sigh.

Much like Lando's "mask" in Jabba's palace, I'm not fooling anyone. But, like every human from this galaxy who has ever seen Star Wars, I wish somebody would Jedi mind-trick me into forgetting the prequels and spinoffs and "special editions."

But now George Lucas has sold the franchise to Disney for more than the GDP of Swaziland (for real, I Googled it). And Mickey and Co. say they're going to make at least three more films, which means Star Wars geeks everywhere have new hope.

Much anger, fear, hate and suffering have we for Lucas. It's impossible to think of a creator of anything so popular who is more reviled than he is. Many geeks spit his name the same way NHL fans say "Gary Bettman," but Bettman didn't invent hockey. It's a unique situation.

But, then again, it's hard to overstate how disappointing Episode I: The Phantom Menace was to anyone who watched Star Wars as a child. Never have so many stood in line for so little.

There's a Lord of the Rings prequel coming out next month. If Lucas was in charge of that project, we'd learn that the battle for Middle Earth was a dispute over an estate tax, that Frodo can carry the ring because of micro-organisms called arthro-mitials, and that before Sauron became the Dark Lord he was a whiny teenager.

Was Lucas only in it for the money? Maybe. But more likely he was only in it for the toys, be it multimillion-dollar special effects or plastic figurines.

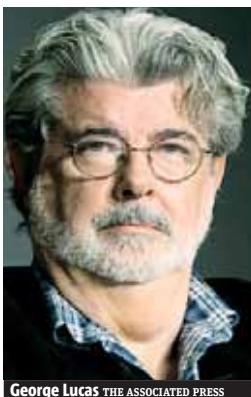
Star Wars always had lots of merchandise, but in the old days it was more a by-product of the excellent films. The original toys were sort of charming in their clunkiness. A lightsabre appeared magically from inside Luke's arm, decals came off R2-D2 in the bathtub, and many frustrating hours were spent in childhood just trying to get Hammerhead to stand up without falling over.

By the time the third prequel came out, there were so many slick toys, ads and cross-promotions it would not have surprised me to see Obi-Wan talking through an AT&T hologram and Darth Vader explaining that he draws his strength from the power of Pepsi.

I've heard a couple of people say that they're worried Disney will ruin the franchise, which to me is like worrying a salvage team retrieving a sunken ship might scratch the hull.

With any luck, Episode 7 will be the movie we were all waiting for in the late '90s. After all, Disney is the film company that has made epic sequels like The Santa Clause 2, and sci-fi fantasy smashes like John Carter. What could possibly go wrong?

May the Force have mercy on us all.



George Lucas THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The ship has sunk

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May the Force have mercy on us all.

500 years and counting



MUSEI VATICANI

Anniversary

Painting marks half-millennium

Today marks 500 years since the completion of one of the world's greatest artistic masterpieces, Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling.

To commemorate the half-millennium, Pope Benedict XIV has held a simple vespers prayer service, a repeat of the devotion to the finished ceiling by Pope Julius II in 1512.

The Vatican has warned it may eventually limit the number of visitors (now five million a year), with sweat, dust and carbon dioxide all contributing to the painting's slow decay. METRO

Conservation

Air conditioner to help preserve art

In an effort to purify the air inside the sacred site and protect the frescoes, a state-of-the-art air-conditioning system, which Vatican Museums director Antonio Paolucci claims is "the most advanced in the world," will be in place by the end of 2013. "My goal is the elimination of atmospheric pollution and I believe the new system will work very well," Paolucci said.

But the conservation has not been without criticism. "Until the last restoration (1980-90) the ceiling was in remarkably good condition for its age," Michael Daley, director at restoration group ArtWatch, told Metro. METRO

Sistine Chapel

- In 1475, the Sistine Chapel was commissioned by Pope Sixtus IV, from whom it gets its name. Since that time, Catholic cardinals have convened at the chapel in a papal conclave to elect a new pope.

- Michelangelo was accused of immorality and obscenity for depicting naked figures in a church. After his death, Church officials ordered another artist to paint loincloths over the offending genitalia.

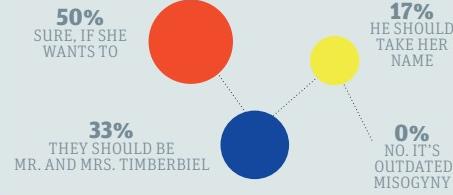


The Creation of Adam is the most famous section of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel. SEI VATICANI



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Should Jessica Biel be taking Justin Timberlake's last name?



Twitter

@p_ippa:
There's a Mario, Luigi and Captain Jack Sparrow in Halifax bus station.

@kathleenemily88:
All of the Sandy aftermath updates remind me of the days after Hurricane Juan. Remember that joyous time, #Halifax? #nopowerforaweek

@AmaraElls:
If Sandy claims the Micmac tavern I'm upgrading this tropical b-

-h to a category 4 #HorribleDamage #Halifax

@elaineframpton:
Where the h— did that river come from? #Halifax #rain #aar-

@dnmilner78:
#Halifax why did you put the Christmas Wreaths up downtown already! You should wait till after Remembrance Day! #iremember

Old Man Luedcke spreads his gospel at local church

Tender is the Night.

Musician focuses on memorable melodies and personalized lyrics



BACKSTAGE PASS

Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca

For Chris "Old Man" Luedcke, appreciation for music started at home.

"My dad was a music lover and I was sensitive to it at an early age," he told me.

An avid clarinet player and bagpipe fan throughout his childhood, Luedcke's out-of-the-gate admiration of music wavered in university.

"I didn't think had it or didn't think I wanted it, so I stopped playing," he said.

Thankfully, with the impulse purchase of a banjo after graduation, Luedcke fell back into his passion.

"I had been listening to folk in school so I bought a banjo and started writing songs and that led to performances," he said.

"The folksy country stuff made sense to me."

With his fifth album, *Tender is the Night*, this Chester native remains focused on memorable melodies and personalized lyrics, avoiding the temptation to "come up with a melody and just throw in a bunch of clichéd phrasing."

A different perspective

"I look at the world a little differently from other people and I want that to come across. ... I think that an important aspect of writing well is trying to get a unique perspective on things."

Chris "Old Man" Luedcke

Details

- **When.** Friday, Nov. 2 @ 8 p.m. (Doors @ 7:30)
- **Where.** St. Matthew's Church (1479 Barrington St.).
- **Tickets.** etixnow.com \$25 advance (\$2.99 online fee)/\$30 day of.

Turning instead to personal stories for inspiration, Luedcke succeeds in both his variety and connection on this album.

Kingdom Come, a narratively relaxed tune about a late night on the town, showcases Luedcke's ability to paint a picture with his lyrics.

"That's the kind of thing I admire — the ability to look at the world from a different perspective and translate that in craft," he said.

"I think that it's straightforward and telling a good story that people can relate to."

Luedcke returns to St. Matthew's Church Friday night for an intimate concert.

"I had played there two years ago — you get an immediate ability to connect and have a really warm show," he said. "I've played at the Cohn, but there is something about that church that feels right — I'm looking forward to it."



Chris "Old Man" Luedcke will play at St. Matthew's Church. HANDOUT

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Washington flies high with complex role

Flawed hero. Actor says making Flight was fulfilling a promise he made to an old, departed friend

 NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

We at least now know how Denzel Washington would answer the age-old question of which super power it's better to have: invisibility or flight.

"I have a flying dream. I've had it for most of my life," Washington says, opening himself up to amateur dream interpreters everywhere.

"Somehow I always end up near the city and I go underneath bridges. And I would just work my way down, and I'd stay under them."

"Then I would have the other part of the dream, it would be this takeoff forever, and I would (be) like, 'Oh, I've got to stay below the street wires.'

"And then I'm starting to go back up, but then, you know, I've got to get back below the wires."

"I don't know what it means."

Washington engages in a slightly different kind of flying in Flight, his latest film from director Robert Zemeckis.

In it, the Oscar-winner

portrays a talented but troubled pilot who brazenly lands a malfunctioning plane with minimal casualties — but he happens to be coming off a booze- and cocaine-fueled bender at the time.

What unfolds is a man lauded as a hero and forced to face his demons at the same time.

The role was definitely a challenge for Washington — but then, he likes a

out the turmoil of his character's life.

"But you're raw. It was just raw. Your nerves are raw."

And it certainly beats the alternative.



Denzel Washington plays a talented — but troubled — pilot in Flight. HANDOUT

You know, tough spots for me are pictures I don't want to be on," he says.

"When the people say, 'What's the hardest part of a movie?' You know, if you're on a movie and it's like t h e

Quoted
"I wouldn't say it was easy. But you're raw. It was just raw. Your nerves are raw."

Denzel Washington on playing the role of a heroic, but flawed, pilot in Flight.

third day and you go, 'How many days have we been shooting?' 'Like, three.' 'How many more have we got to go?' '117.' That's a tough movie for me, but this was an adventure."

As for what drew Washington to the project in the first place, it turns out making Flight was part of keeping a promise to an old, departed friend.

"My agent, the late Ed Limato, the last two scripts he gave me were Flight and Safe House," Washington explains.

"That was a part of it — a promise I made to him."

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Quoted

"I found the complexity of the character really intriguing, the way all the characters were shades of grey."

Robert Zemeckis on the Flight script

Plane-crash king. Director strove for realism in fall from sky

With the upcoming release of the disaster film Flight, acclaimed director Robert Zemeckis can rightly seek the title of Hollywood's plane-crash king.

His latest drama begins with a terrifying catastrophe that sends crew and passengers see-sawing through the air as a routine trip goes horribly awry.

It was a complicated sequence that involved lots of computer-generated technology and meticulous planning,

Zemeckis said during a stop in Toronto to promote the film. "All of those things that you use in movies," he said.

His last live-action film, Cast Away, also included a heart-stopping crash landing.

The Tom Hanks survival epic features a FedEx plane tossed through the air by a violent storm until it plummets into the ocean.

In the years following that film's release, the aircraft's distinctive dive sparked intense online debate among pilots and

aviation experts over the circumstances, staging and plausibility of such a crash.

Zemeckis, who won an Oscar for directing Forrest Gump, says he's hoping there's no eye-rolling over his latest big screen catastrophe in Flight. He said he strove for as much realism as possible.

"We have real pilots and experts vet all these ideas so we don't have anyone doing that," he said of picky eye-rollers.

Zemeckis added that the crash in Flight was based on an actual Alaska Airlines accident in 2000 that killed all 88 people on board.

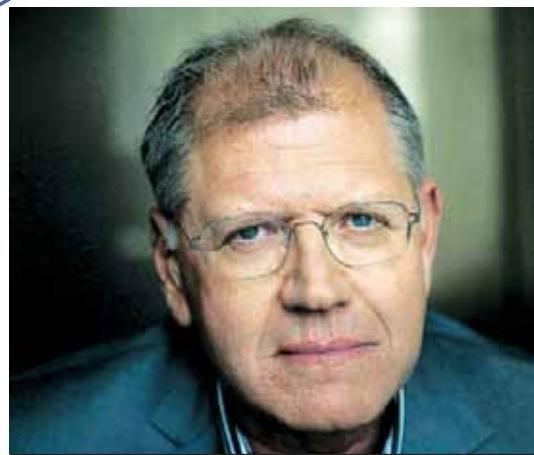
Things turn out much differently in his fictional version.

It's not a spoiler to reveal that most passengers survive thanks to the bold manoeuvres of a veteran pilot, played by Denzel Washington.

Washington's troubled character, Whip Whitaker, emerges a hero for averting disaster, but soon comes under scrutiny for the role he may have played nonetheless.

"I found the complexity of the character really intriguing, the way all the characters were shades of grey," Zemeckis said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



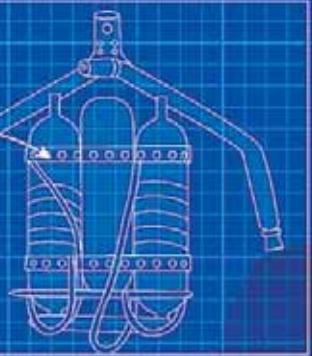
Flight, directed by Robert Zemeckis, opens Friday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

OUR FAVOURITE 007 GADGETS

In honour of Q's return in Skyfall, we round up the best.

JET PACK
FROM Thunderball YEAR 1965

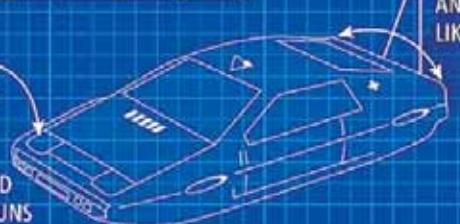
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LOTUS ESPRIT
FROM The Spy Who Loved Me YEAR 1977

HEADLIGHT CONTAINS CEMENT BLASTER AND MACHINE GUNS

IT'S SLEEK AND SUAVE, LIKE BOND



TV WATCH
FROM Octopussy YEAR 1983

CATCH UP ON YOUR FAVOURITE SHOWS WHILE KILLING SOMEONE



APPLE SHOULD SUE Q

SONIC SINGLE DIGIT AGITATOR RING
FROM Die Another Day YEAR 2002

TWIST AND IT EMITS AN ULTRA-HIGH FREQUENCY
SHATTER GLASS AND BLOW VILLAINS' MINDS

TEXT: MICHELLE CASTILLO; GRAPHIC: MIA KORAB; MWN

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Hollywood's leading men have a hairy conundrum facing them

Movember. Got beard? It may be the difference between a hit movie and the discount bin

MIKE DOJIC
scene@metronews.ca

To beard or not to beard, that is the whisker twirler confronting scores of stars looking to kick their careers into higher gear. Cultivating facial forestry can have a transformative effect on an actor, re-energizing their chi and forcing folks to see them in a new light. A baptism of fuzz may well be just what the barber ordered. At the very least, it'll prompt legions of fans to tweet their praises with a #beardgettingitdone or #gotbeard hashtag and that kind of social media hubbub is always a good thing for Hollywood players.

A hot meme in the geekier corners of the interweb, the theorem is predicated on Jonathan Frakes (Commander Riker) growing his out to start the second season of Star Trek the Next Generation, widely seen as the inflection point when the show went from mere impulse power to warp drive in one hairy intergalactic minute.

Years later, when Counselor Troi shaves Riker midway through Star Trek: Insurrection during the sexy bathtub scene, the sci-fi staple entered terminal decline, where it would remain cold and lifeless until the J.J. Abrams 2009 reboot of the franchise.

Zach Galifianakis' career arc perfectly illustrates the beard as career elixir. While the outlandish comic had some success as a stand-up, his first major break was

landing his own talk show on VH1 10 years ago. But Late Night World with Zach bombed and was cancelled after just a nine-week run. Could a contributing factor have been that Galifianakis was clean-shaven on the show? Post cancellation, Galifianakis disappeared from

view.

"When you go from having your own talk show to doing stand-up in a bowling alley, you can react by getting mad or depressed, or by just going away, like people expect you to. I reacted by growing my beard," Galifianakis once told the New

York Times.

Post shave-cation, full bearded Galifianakis suddenly had stage presence. He was not only way more recognizable, he also became an original, a humourist of repute, absolutely slaying audiences in *The Hangover*.

"Beards can be a great way

for an actor to change his public face and to reinvent a career," explains Dr. Allan Peterkin, a facial hair guru whose latest book *One Thousand Mustaches: A Cultural History of the Mo* hones in on the above-the-lip hair strip.

The main caveat to the growing the beard trope is



Frakes, back, is clean shaven and, frankly, boring.



Jonathan Frakes' beard is credited by some as saving Star Trek the Next Generation.

that the look has to suit the actor's face.

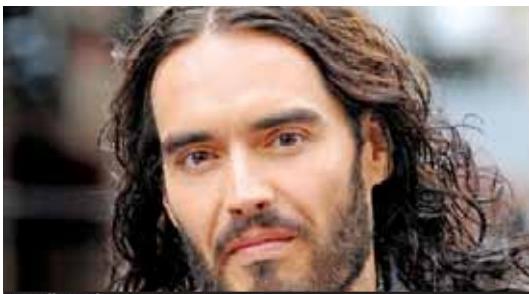
Otherwise, the follicular thicket may come off as a disguise instead of a new guise as Jim Carrey, Anthony Hopkins and Joaquin Phoenix can all attest.

In 2005, Mel Gibson sported a diabolical salt-and-pepper growth, which bore a pretty strong resemblance to the Unabomber's mug shot or a spider-hole era Saddam Hussein.

That unkempt extrusion certainly didn't do Gibson's waning career any favours.



The beard of Zach Galifianakis is the leader of the Wolf pack. HANDOUT



Russell Brand. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Russell Brand dispensing sage advice to celebrities

Russell Brand, who is something of an expert when it comes to facing problems with drugs and alcohol, could offer troubled starlet Lindsay Lohan some pretty valuable advice, but he's saving it for Lohan herself. "If I did have (advice), I'd give it to her directly," Brand tells *Hollywood*. "Lindsay, I don't suppose you got a phone or any-

thing."

And while he waits for her contact info, the former addict does have some advice for stars who don't necessarily need rehab treatment.

"If they don't have a problem with drugs or alcohol, they should drink a lot and take lots of drugs and enjoy themselves," he says.



Justin Bieber

Stop the presses! Justin Bieber has a hamster

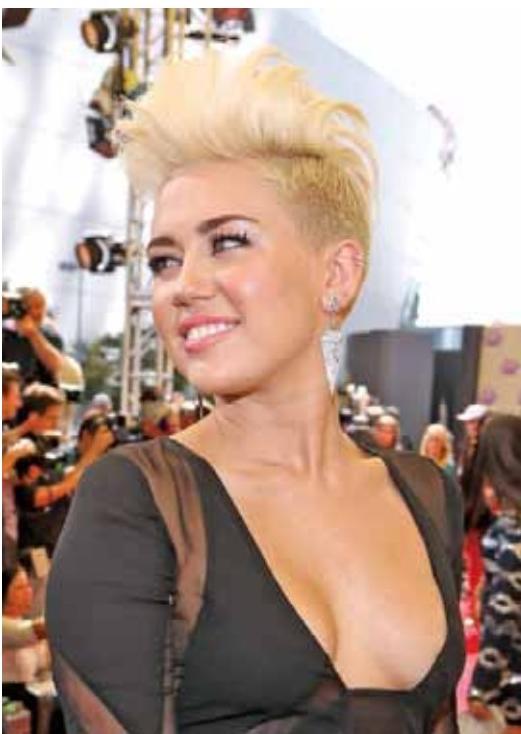
Justin Bieber likes to keep things interesting while on the road, and keeping things interesting apparently involves carting around a pet hamster named Pac.

"This is Pac the hamster, my new Believe Tour pet," Bieber says in a post to Twitter that includes a photo of the tiny rodent. "I will bring him to every meet-and-greet."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Miley Cyrus to have three weddings across planet

Miley Cyrus is reportedly planning to go all out when she marries fiancé Liam Hemsworth, celebrating with three lavish weddings around the globe, according

to *Star* magazine. Cyrus and Hemsworth, who announced their engagement in June, are said to be planning separate ceremonies in Los Angeles, her native Tennessee and his hometown of Melbourne, Australia.

All three ceremonies will reportedly take place next year — with a different wedding dress for each — and Cyrus had reportedly budgeted \$1 million for the endeavor.

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Twitter



@katyperry

I'm starting to rationalize with Doomsday preppers. *whistles a particular REM song*



@billmaher

Looking forward to James Bond movie; Obama's like him cuz he's cool, has license to kill; and Mitt's like him cuz he's been 6 different guys



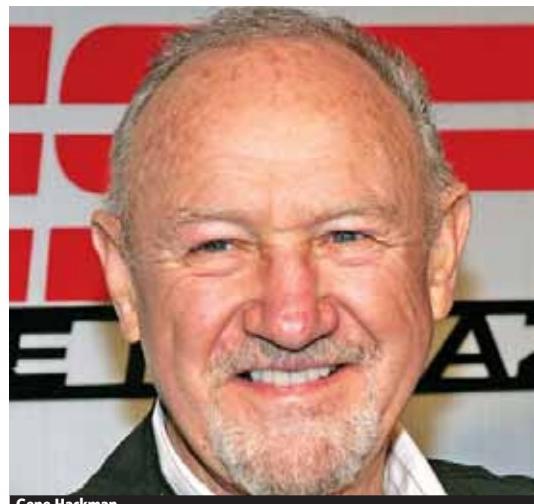
@realjaclynsmith

An honest person is a person who can play chess on the phone.



@SteveMartinToGo

Even though we've had to cancel all the shows due to the storm, in an unprecedented move, we are going to keep all the ticket money.



Gene Hackman

Don't mess with Gene Hackman

Gene Hackman reportedly slapped a homeless man who had accosted Hackman and his wife, Betsy Arakawa, outside a restaurant in New Mexico, according to *TMZ*.

The man, Bruce Becker, reportedly approached the couple as they were leaving the restaurant, and an argument ensued, culminating with Becker insulting Arakawa and Hackman defending himself by striking Becker. The police were called but no charges were made against Hackman, as it was determined he acted in self-defence. His rep did not respond to a request for comment.

Going out on a Lim: A Reitmans-Martin mash-up

Power couple.

Metro gabs with dynamite design duo Martin Lim and their Reitmans collaborator Brigitte Martin about inspiration, comfort and accessibility in fashion

BRIGITTE NOËL

life@metronews.ca

Montreal-based design duo Martin Lim has wasted no time becoming a recognizable name in the Canadian fashion industry. With a mere four collections under its belt, the nascent label has already garnered critical acclaim and won the prestigious Mercedes-Benz Start Up program. Now, the designer power-couple of Danielle Martin and Pao Lim are collaborating with Reitmans on a capsule collection of 10 dresses.

So how did this collaboration start?

Brigitte Martin (Reitmans merchandise manager): When we were in Toronto last year, (Martin Lim) were showing and they really were loved by the public, so they were on our radar. We weren't sure who they were, we thought it was one person. We wanted to meet them and when we did, it was even more than we expected.

Pao Lim: We were excited by the news, the first meeting just fit. We were surprised, because we're a relatively young business.

So how did it go from there?

Brigitte: They weren't sure if



Husband and wife business team Danielle Martin and Pao Lim. PROVIDED

at first they should come up with new ideas, but I said no, we love what we've seen so far; that's the real DNA of Martin Lim. I don't know if it was so clear for you what your DNA was for us?

Danielle Martin: Somehow yes and no. If we love something we just make it, we don't think, "is it our DNA or not?" But when we had to create the collection here, we really had to think, OK, what is Martin Lim about, what is significant in our style?

Pao: It's a very concise collec-

tion, so every dress has to be recognizable. It's more of a challenge for us.

You used some quite interesting elements, some vegan leather, even neoprene.

Pao: We bound two fabrics together to have that neoprene look: we use silk and we bind it to jersey to have that comfort.

Danielle: It's the mix of all the fabrics that was a surprise for us. Without intending to, their signature touches came through. The first ideas they drew were the bodycon shift

Brigitte: I have to see if I can sit, if I can walk, if I can live in my clothes.

Show off your shape

"Very often, when people design plus sizes, they tend to try to cover the body. We say, why hide?"

Pao Lim
Co-creator of Martin Lim

dresses. They were doing a plus and a petite also ... Danielle has an interesting way of talking about plus, she calls it "épanouie," which is a blossom.

Danielle: Pao wanted a bodycon dress for the plus sizes, he wanted to have the shape and the curves.

Pao: Yes, it glorifies the woman curve. Very often, when people design plus sizes, they tend to try to cover the body. We say, why hide?

Danielle: I really like to use the silhouette to attract le regard to the décolleté, to the front. For a petite, (the dress) just elongates the legs. The waist is slightly higher. You can wear it with a jacket, or without, or go to dinner.

From office to party!

Brigitte: Yes! That was the versatility we were looking for; that's sort of part of our brand platform — versatile and comfortable. That's not what you think when you see this collection. (Comfort) wasn't the ultimate goal at the beginning, but it wound up working very well.

Danielle: I have to see if I can sit, if I can walk, if I can live in my clothes.

THE MARTIN LIM FOR REITMANS COLLECTION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE ON NOV. 1 AND IN SELECT STORES ON NOV. 2.

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- Brigitte Martin, Reitmans



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Worried about your sushi rolling skills? No need with these squares



This recipe makes 16 servings. LORELLA ZANETTI, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)



ROSE REISMAN
for more, visit
rosereisman.com

My corporate clients vote this their favourite appetizer. It's the perfect solution for those who shy away from sushi because of concern about eating raw fish.

The key is cooking the sushi rice properly. I always use a water-to-rice ratio of one-to-one, never stir the rice, and keep it covered even when it's cooling — using a rice cooker is easy, since it can never go wrong. You can find rice wine vinegar already flavoured for

Ingredients

- 2 cups sushi rice
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 cup rice wine vinegar
- 1 tbsp granulated sugar
- 16 thin slices English cucumber (unpeeled)
- 4 oz smoked salmon
- 1 tbsp light mayonnaise

sushi, so you don't have to add any sugar. Nori is available in good quality supermarkets and Asian food shops.

1. Combine the rice and water in a saucepan. Bring to a boil and boil for 1 minute. Reduce the heat to low, cover and cook for 12 minutes. Remove from the heat and let stand, covered, for 10 minutes.

2. While the rice cooks, combine the vinegar and sugar in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil, stirring to dissolve the sugar. Remove from the heat.

3. Turn the rice out into a large bowl. Stir in the vinegar and

sugar mixture. Cool just until the rice no longer feels hot. Don't let the rice get cold or it will dry out.

4. Line an 8-inch-square baking dish with plastic wrap. Cover the bottom with the cucumber slices. Lay the smoked salmon over top. Mix the mayonnaise and wasabi together and spread over the salmon.

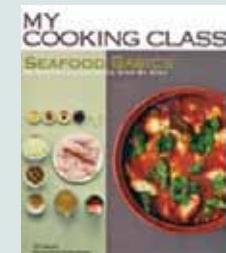
5. Place half of the rice over the mayonnaise. Pat it firmly to an even thickness, dipping your fingers in water to prevent the rice from sticking to your hands. Top with the nori. Add the remaining rice, patting it firmly to an even thickness.

6. Invert onto a serving platter and cut into 16 pieces. Sprinkle with the sesame seeds. Serve immediately, or cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for up to 8 hours. Serve at room temperature, garnished with soy sauce, wasabi and pickled ginger, if desired.

ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN

Cookbook of the Week

Dive into the sea



With step-by-step photo directions and 86 recipes, My Cooking Class: Seafood Basics by Abi Fawcett is your guide to mastering seafood. Tutorials demonstrate basic techniques such as filleting a cooked round fish and butterflying shrimp, and concise instructions remind cooks of the do's and don'ts of handling seafood.

Seafood Basics is divided into eight chapters and includes recipes such as: Classic Fish Stew, Crab Bisque, Moroccan Fish Tagine, Louisiana Seafood Gumbo, Saltencrusted Sea Bass, Fresh Fish Pizza, Creamed Clam Linguine, Quick Monkfish Curry, Maryland Crab Cakes, Lobster with Cayenne, Stuffed Baked Squid and Spanish Seafood Paella. METRO

Peanuts, cucumber give salmon fresh boost

Here's an easy and light dinner option that combines the fresh tastes of lime

and jalapeno and delivers healthy omega-3 fatty acids. For a spicier relish, add

Ingredients

- 1 cup (250 ml) English cucumber, diced
- 1/3 cup (75 ml) unsalted dry-roasted peanuts, chopped
- 1/4 cup (50 ml) fresh mint, chopped
- 1 jalapeno, seeded and diced (optional)
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) fresh lime juice
- 1 tsp (5 ml) finely grated lime zest
- 1 tsp (5 ml) granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) freshly ground pepper
- 4 salmon fillets (about 4 oz/120 g each)
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) sweet Thai chili sauce

more jalapeno and/or include the seeds. You can also serve the relish over grilled lean steak or chicken instead of salmon.

This recipe considers the nutritional needs of people who live with diabetes.

1. Toss the cucumber with the peanuts, mint, jalapeno (if you are using), lime juice, lime zest, sugar and half each of the pepper. Set aside.

2. Meanwhile, lightly coat

a non-stick skillet or grill pan with cooking spray and set over medium-high heat. Season the salmon with the remaining pepper and cook for 4 to 5 minutes per side or until just coral in the centre.

3. Brush the fish with the chili sauce just before removing from the skillet. Taste and adjust the seasonings of the relish as preferred. Spoon the relish over the salmon to serve.

NEWS CANADA / PEANUTBUREAU.CA



This recipe serves four. NEWS CANADA



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Updating your place can be done quickly and inexpensively by shaking up your accessories.

With fall settled in and winter on its way, adding a few trend-setting home comforts will help give your rooms a boost.

What's hot for fall/winter is bold patterns and strong colours.

Here's a primer as to what changes will give you the biggest bang for your buck.



Modular carpet tiles are a great way to add creativity to an entrance. FLOR.COM

Front Entrance

Here's your chance to create a stylish welcome with something that is not only attractive, but useful. A series of modular carpet tiles can be arranged to fit any entrance and the design/colour choices are endless. They are usually made of synthetic, durable low-weave carpeting pieces, so are flat enough to slide under existing closet hall doors and simply stick in place to the floor with safety tape. Other ways to add pizzazz to your front entrance: a new pendant light, a wall hung mirror, or simply paint the inside of your door a fashionable colour. Remembrance carpet tiles, flor.com



Liven up your bedroom with bright bedding sets.
URBANOUTFITTERS.COM

Bedding

The bed is the largest piece of furniture in the bedroom, so making a seasonal change with bedding means changing a large part of the room. Try to include colours that already exist in the bedroom so that your new bedding blends with the entire room's decor scheme. Don't forget the designer details such as a co-ordinating bedskirt, pillow shams and a decorative top blanket. Other ways to liven up your bedroom: add stationary drapery panels on each side of the window, paint the wall behind the bed a fashionable colour or add a new upholstered headboard. Paper Medallion bedding, urbanoutfitters.com



Consider pillows to be artwork for the sofa.
POTTERYBARN.COM

Living room

For most good decorators, the colour of the sofa is neutral, which means injecting some colourful pillows isn't that difficult. Wondering where to find inspiration for your new pillows? Look no further than a great colour in your artwork or area rug to create a pulled-together room. Other ways to decorate your living room: a new area rug, lampshades or a cosy throw will all help to take your room from boring to fabulous for just a few dollars and in just minutes. Suzani embroidered pillow cover, potterybarn.com

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FRESHEN UP HOLIDAY DÉCOR

HOW TO MAKE YOUR HOME MORE WARM AND INVITING

Decorating your home for the holidays is an age-old tradition. As another festive season approaches, it may seem as if many décor ideas are a little tired, so why not come up with a with a fresh take on some tried-and-true classics?

Sally Morse, director of creative services for window fashions company Hunter Douglas, offers the following tips on how to expand your concept of seasonal décor:

RUSTIC TOUCHES

Natural elements help set the stage for your décor, whatever its style, and make your home feel more warm and inviting. Try filling a vase with dry arrangements or a large bowl with pine cones for a festive and eye-catching centrepiece. Garlands are also great for an outdoor porch, for winding around bannisters or for draping along mantelpieces.

METALLIC ACCENTS

There is no better season to go extreme with our love of metallic and shimmer than the holidays. There are limitless ways to introduce this decorative element into your home décor. For starters, take an ordinary wreath and give it some pizazz by adding silver- and gold-painted pine cones or dress up your dining room table by placing low votives in a glass bowl and surrounding them with tinsel or Christmas tree balls.

TABLE TRIMMINGS

The dining room table is the focal point of holiday gatherings, so it's important not to neglect your holiday table decorations. Find inspiration from nature by using evergreen clippings and wire to



COMSTOCK IMAGES/THINKSTOCK

form tiny wreaths that can slip over pillar candles. Also, consider using a holiday-coloured runner on your table for a different take on the traditional tablecloth. Or dress up a simple place setting with a whitewashed pinecone. Picking a theme for your table décor is another way to create a festive setting. Ideas such as blue Christmas, winter wonderland or holiday minimalism are trusted favourites and offer lots of possibilities.

HOLIDAY CARDS

Wondering what to do with all those holiday greeting cards? Consider buying a wide red ribbon and either pinning or stapling each of your holiday cards in a row down the length of the ribbon. Then drape the ribbon over your living room or foyer door and finish by tying the leftover ribbon on the handle of the door on the other side. Your friends will undoubtedly be touched and warmed when they see

their card hanging on your door.

MORE IS MORE

Holiday cheer is meant to be spread around to all. Apply this concept to your holiday décor and sprinkle some of that cheer all over your home. From wintry centrepieces to bold, red accents to decorative candles, the options are limitless. So go overboard.

— News Canada



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QUALITY FURNITURE BUILT TO ORDER AT KVADRO

Anyone who has lived with Amish-made furniture will tell you that it looks good and lasts for years and years. At KVADRO Furniture, the products it carries are made of 100 per cent solid hardwoods and are built to the highest standards.

"We've hand-picked the builders we are working with for their quality workmanship," says KVADRO owner Joe Dueck.

KVADRO works with more than 30 different small Amish woodworking shops, all known for their legendary attention to detail.

While one might associate the Amish with traditional styles, KVADRO carries a lot of sleek contemporary designs as well.

"We've created a lot of the designs ourselves and we have them built for us by the Amish craftsmen," Dueck says.

One of the advantages of purchas-



CONTRIBUTED

ing furniture from KVADRO is that all products are built to order, so customers can choose from multiple types of woods and colours. In most cases, the size of the furniture can even be changed.

Family owned and operated, KVADRO's 4,000-square-foot showroom is located in Baynes Lake at 100 Susie Lake Cres., next door to Lee Valley Tools.

Word of KVADRO's reputation is spreading across the province.

"I came all the way from Antigonish just to come to this store," says customer Bonnie DeCoste.

She heard about KVADRO from several other people and has been to the store three times over the past few months.

"The workmanship is just amazing," DeCoste says.



NEWS CANADA PHOTO

SMALL PACKAGES

TRANSFORM YOUR CONDO, TOWNHOME, APARTMENT INTO A WINTER WONDERLAND

Living in a condominium, townhome, or apartment shouldn't mean that you have to forgo festive holiday decorating. Experts in this field claim that some of this year's hottest holiday trends come in very small packages. Here is how you can create your very own Christmas in Condoland.

Interior decorators recommend utilizing as much of your existing home décor as possible. This includes making use of your current colour scheme to achieve a festive impact. Holiday décor is no longer limited to the traditional green and red — many decorations are available in a range of colours that will match or complement your colour palette, including neutrals, metallics, and bolder tones. Replace existing accent pillows, throw blankets, bath-

room, kitchen and dining linens with ones that are holiday themed. As an added touch, break out festive dishware and keep it on display throughout the season.

Karen Sortino, a home organization specialist from Lowe's Home Improvement, suggests that when dealing with a small space, consider using the parameter of your living quarters, rather than cluttering living space by adding décor items that may get in the way.

"Hanging wreaths and garlands to walls, window wells and frames is easy to accomplish, and requires no rearranging. Monogrammed hooks can be installed temporarily to hang stockings or wreaths to your walls and mantels, and crystals or ornaments can be dangled from ceilings using ribbon or clear fishing wire."

Despite all of these options, many people insist that putting up a Christmas tree is essential to fostering holiday spirit. Fortunately, there are many options such as miniature trees (natural or artificial), table top trees, half trees that sit flush against your wall; there are even peel and stick Christmas tree wall decals.

— News Canada

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AT ELEMENTS BATH & KITCHEN

At many bath and kitchen stores, when people turn on a faucet, they don't get to experience the real feel for how the product will work. The reason is simple: The faucet isn't hooked up to a live water source. At Elements Bath & Kitchen, that isn't the case.

"Everything in the showroom consists of working fixtures, so people can come and test out the fixtures," says showroom manager Michelle Beaver. "They can flush the toilets, they can turn on the faucets to get an idea of the pressure, as well as turn on the shower heads to see how they operate."

Being able to test out the fixtures is crucial for customers because while something might look like the right fit, it may not function the way they want since a shower head or faucet might not provide the water pressure a customer is looking for. "Everything looks good in a package," Beaver says.

Elements carries a wide selection of



VICTORIA & ALBERT NAPOLI PHOTO

faucets, toilets, sinks and bathtubs, from manufacturers including Hansgrohe, Neo-Metro, Aquabrass, Neptune, Victoria + Albert, and others.

Regardless of the price point someone is interested in, Elements provides products that cater to all markets.

In addition to these products, Elements provides the accessories that complete the look of a bathroom or kitchen. These accessories include creams, lotions, vases, bath salts, bath bombs, candles, plates, dishes, and wine decanters.

No space is complete without art work and Elements carries a fantastic collection. "We have all kinds of local art-

work," Beaver says. "We like to support the local artists."

Elements carries work by local artists such as Daniel Peck, Lisa Fraser and Kristina Sobstad. The store even features work by local sculptor David MacFadden.

Located in the Bayers Lake Business Park at 127 Chain Lake Dr., Elements is a 5,000-square-foot space spread over two levels.

The company works with customers across Atlantic Canada and is able to ship its products anywhere.

"We specialize in products you don't see everywhere," Beaver says. "It's a very unique European-style showroom."



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SPECIAL EVENTS

With its spacious location and European-style showroom, Elements Bath & Kitchen provides a great venue for hosting special events. Past functions held at the retailer include charitable fundraisers, auctions and guest speakers. For more, contact Michelle Beaver, the showroom manager, at 450-7060, or by email at mbeaver@emcoltd.com.



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THE CORNERSTONE OF CRESO

AWARD-WINNING HOME BUILDER FOCUSES ON LOWERING ENERGY BILLS FOR BUYERS

For more than 20 years, Cresco has been building quality and innovative homes across Metro. Not surprisingly, Cresco has won many different awards from many different organizations over the years. These awards are a reflection of the passion, impeccable design and stellar construction Cresco brings to every project.

One of the biggest honours Cresco has received to

date was the R-2000 Builder of the Year 2010 award from the Canadian Home Builders' Association. R-2000 is a demanding set of technical requirements for energy efficiency, indoor air quality, and environmental responsibility.

Building energy-efficient homes is a cornerstone of Cresco's operation.

"Our goal is to lower the energy bills for the end consumer and lower the environmental impact of building the home," says marketing and sales co-ordinator John Faddoul. "It also helps to improve the resale value."

Today, Cresco builds all of its homes to meet the demanding ENERGY STAR certification. To achieve this designation, homes have features such as insulation upgrades, higher performance windows, and more efficient heating and hot water systems.

"You're saving almost 25 per cent on your energy bills with an ENERGY STAR home versus a non-

ENERGY STAR home," Faddoul says. "There are definite savings."

Another benefit of Cresco's homes is that all its homes are TechReady. By making a home TechReady, it ensures it is equipped to deal with the latest advances in voice, video and data communications technology.

"We include that as a standard feature in all of our homes," Faddoul says. "We provide more than what other builders provide when it comes to technology."

At present, Cresco is building homes in three different communities in Halifax. On Morningfield Lane and Basswood Run in Russell Lake West in Dartmouth, Cresco is building townhouses. Around the corner on Krause Court, Cresco is beginning construction on single-family homes.

At the Ravines of Bedford South, located just off the Bedford Highway, Cresco is building a complete range of homes, from entry-level townhouse and single-family homes, all the way to executive dwellings, with everything in between.

Cresco is also building townhouses in the Parks of West Bedford, a neighbourhood that is located between the Hammonds Plains Road and Kearney Lake.

LIFESTYLE COMMUNITIES

Cresco focuses on building homes in what it calls lifestyle communities. These are places that have an emphasis on offering ample green space, plenty of sidewalks and amenities. This all helps ensure families have lots of opportunities to lead an active lifestyle right in their own backyard.



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Peak Audio offers and installs a variety of home automation products that will control the simplest to the most complex custom requirements.

"Whether it's the industry leader Crestron automation systems or systems by NuVo or Xantech, our control systems will meet your needs at all price points," Merrigan III says.

These systems can be installed during new construction or renovations or as retrofits to existing spaces.

"With our 25 years of experience in home automation, we look forward to developing a custom solution to your automation needs," Merrigan III says.

As Peak Audio works more closely with families that are renovating and building new homes, it has also moved into selling contemporary furnishings and lighting.

However, Peak Audio's traditional culture will remain and it will continue to sell traditional sound systems and, believe it or not, turntables.

MUSIC LOVER'S RESOURCE

AT PEAK AUDIO

The way people listen to music in their homes is constantly evolving because of technology.

"People are transmitting music from computers and hand-held devices to audio

systems," says Mike Merrigan III, a custom installer with Peak Audio.

He envisions this way of listening to music will grow in popularity.

Peak Audio, located at 2813 Agricola St. in Halifax, sells cutting-edge technology needed to stream music this way, such as the MOON MiND. Manufactured

in Montreal by industry leader Simaudio, it is a high performance wireless-streaming device with exceptional sound.

Technology is also changing how we function in our homes.

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Retooled Rainmen pack more offensive punch

NBL Canada. Owner predicts league's highest-scoring offence will only get better



MATTHEW
WUEST

matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

The Halifax Rainmen are hoping to score their way to a National Basketball League of Canada title.

The Rainmen, who open the NBL Canada season on the road on Friday against the Windsor Express, had the highest-scoring team in the league last season but rebuilt their roster around speedy guards known for their ability to put the ball in the net.

Owner Andre Levingston said he expects his squad to score even more than the 105.9 points per game they averaged last season.

"You can't really key on one person — we have five or six guys who can go for 20-plus points on any given night," Levingston said. "If it's one of those nights where we've got everybody clicking, you're going to see a lot of points scored from this team."

Darren Duncan, signed from the Saint John Mill Rats, was brought in to run the point, while Eddie Smith from the London Lightning, Brandon Robinson from the Oshawa Power and returnee Joey Haywood have proven they can average between 15 and 20 points per game.

"You've been seeing our league is really geared around guards," Levingston said. "Eddie and Joey can score in bunches, Brandon can strike any time from the outside, and

Saturday's game

Rainmen vs. Lightning

After the Rainmen open the season on Friday on the road against the Windsor Express, they'll visit the London Lightning on Saturday. The Lightning beat the Rainmen in last year's final but are dealing with the loss of NBL Canada most valuable player Gabe Freeman.

"Until somebody knocks them off their throne, they're the champs," Levingston said. "It's early in the year but it gives us an opportunity to see how our young guys handle the challenge and we're looking forward to it." METRO

all of these guys can attack the basket. We're a lot more explosive than we were last year."

Levingston, who estimates the Rainmen's average age is around 23, tried to build a more youthful team and hopes this year's edition will have more energy come playoff time.

He also wanted the team to get taller, so he brought back six-foot-eight Darnell Hugue and signed six-foot-eight Quincy Okolie and six-foot-11 Paul Nelson. This season's roster averages close to six-foot-five, almost two inches taller than last season.

But with only two returning players and a new head coach in Cliff Levingston, Andre Levingston said it will take time for the team to reach its potential.

"We're gonna take some lumps along the way," he said.



New Rainmen point guard Darren Duncan will be distributing the ball to high-scoring guards Brandon Robinson, Joey Haywood and Eddie Smith. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Mooseheads hit the road chasing records



Mooseheads forward Jonathan Drouin, left. JEFF HARPER/METRO

If the Halifax Mooseheads are going to break several long-standing franchise records, they'll have to do it on the road.

The Mooseheads, first in the QMJHL at 15-1 and winners of 13 straight games, play their next four contests on the road starting on Saturday at 8 p.m. against the Drummondville Voltigeurs and Sunday at 5 p.m. against the Rimouski Oceanic.

They're 7-0 on the road this season and just a win away from tying their franchise record eight-game road winning streak set in 1998.

"It's a little bit easier to

CHL ranking

2

The Mooseheads' latest ranking in the Canadian Hockey League top 10, trailing only the Western Hockey League's Kamloops Blazers, 16-0.

focus on the road right now," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme. "With the hype around the team (in Halifax), the parents and the fans, sometimes we might be getting caught up into wanting to do too much at home. On the road we focus on what

we need to do and there's not much that bothers us."

The Mooseheads also need just two more wins to match their franchise-best winning streak of 15 games set in 1998.

After this weekend, the Mooseheads have four days off before visiting the Gatineau Olympiques on Nov. 9. But they won't return to Halifax, making it one of their longest road trips of the season.

"It will be good to have them together like that," Ducharme said. "It's good team-building."

MATTHEW WUEST/METRO

CHLPA finding traction in QMJHL

Players' union. But some teams still believe third party shouldn't be involved with player welfare

The head of Canada's first junior hockey team to join a union says he welcomes the help in making his players' lives better.

"This organization understands the decision of those kids and respects their decision," says Ronald Thibault, governor of the Sherbrooke Phoenix.

Sufficient numbers of his players have signed membership cards to join a group that aims to unionize junior hockey players across the country.

The Canadian Hockey League Players' Association says it wants to become the official representative for 1,300 players on the Canadian Hockey League's 60 teams so it can negotiate fairer wages, better working conditions and improved post-hockey schooling packages.

Thibault says the QMJHL provides very well for its players already, but "if somebody wants to help us out and make



Team Cherry players leave the ice after the CHL top prospects game in Toronto in January 2011. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

it better for the kids then they're welcome to come."

The association's attempts to unionize players have not been so universally welcomed by other teams or the CHL.

In Cape Breton, where Screaming Eagles players are expected to vote on Friday about whether to join the association or not, the team issued a statement seemingly designed to discourage players.

"We do not believe that any third party can provide

By the numbers

\$35

Right now, players who travel, train and are on the ice for dozens of hours every week are paid as little as \$35 a week.

programs and support better than what the Screaming Eagles and other league teams currently voluntarily provide to our players," the statement says. "In the coming days, we

will continue to speak with our players and their families and ask that before they agree to anything that they do their research into the CHLPA and who is behind it."

This type of reaction is why the association says it is keeping quiet about which teams they've targeted for certification next, says association spokesperson Derek Clarke.

The CHLPA fears that players with pro-union views are at risk of retaliation by teams.

As well as its success in Sherbrooke, the association has started the certification process with five teams in Alberta.

Is Ontario next? Maybe, maybe not, says Michael Mazzuca of Gibson & Barnes LLP, the association's legal representative in Ontario.

"In Ontario we're giving the league an opportunity to dialogue and sit down and possibly negotiate a collective agreement or a voluntary recognition agreement. If those attempts are not fruitful then, of course, we'll go down the path of starting the certification applications," Mazzuca says.

Last week, the CHLPA sent letters to the league and all the teams in the OHL threatening legal action if the teams didn't start following employment standards, including paying minimum wage.

"It's easy to say they aren't paid," says Thibault. "But there's more than just the salary."

The teams, among other things, work to balance the "heavy schedule in junior hockey" with attending high school and provide tutors, Thibault says. "You can't put numbers behind all that....

Who is Derek Clarke?

Spokesperson's identity called into question

In a bizarre turn of events Wednesday night, CHLPA spokesperson Derek Clarke himself came under fire in media stories suggesting that he may actually be Randy Gumbley, a former hockey coach convicted of fraud.

"Those allegations are entirely false," says Michael Mazzuca of Gibson & Barnes LLP, the association's legal representative in Ontario. "Clarke is certainly not Gumbley."

Mazzuca added that Clarke would be on TSN on Thursday to prove it. The allegations are part of a "smokescreen" to detract from the membership vote on Friday, Mazzuca says.

Some of the teams do it better than others because they're richer but they all have the same intention."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pacers rip win from Raptors' grasp



Pacers Tyler Hansbrough and Paul George battle for the ball with Raptors centre Jonas Valanciunas on Wednesday in Toronto. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Harden makes immediate impact after signing with Rockets

James Harden agreed to a five-year, \$80-million contract with the Houston Rockets on Wednesday.

The Rockets acquired the reigning Sixth Man of the Year in a stunning trade with Oklahoma City on Saturday night.

Harden then went out and scored 37 points and 12 assists in a stirring debut for Houston, and Carlos Delfino made four three-pointers in the fourth quarter to lift the



James Harden drives to the basket on Pistons centre Greg Monroe on Wednesday in Detroit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rockets to a 105-96 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Wednesday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From the rookie who earned a double-double in his NBA debut, to the team's hardscrabbling new point guard, to a jampacked crowd at Air Canada Centre, the Raptors' season opener had all the makings of a positive vibe not felt by Toronto sports fans in quite a while.

It had everything, that is, except a victory.

David West scored 14 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter Wednesday as the Indiana Pacers edged Toronto 90-88, spoiling what had been a thrilling opener for the revamped

Opening night

90 88

Pacers

Raptors

Raptors.

Kyle Lowry scored 21 points, while Jonas Valanciunas had 12 points and 10 rebounds in his NBA debut for the Raptors.

Optimism summed up Toronto coach Dwane Casey's

feelings after the game.

"I'm proud of our team, I thought we showed more grit and spunk than we showed all last year," Casey said. "Yes it hurts, but there are so many positives I'm looking at against one of the top teams in the NBA."

Five Raptors scored in double figures as Andrea Bargnani added 16, Jose Calderon finished with 15 and DeMar DeRozan, who earlier in the day agreed to terms on a four-year contract extension worth \$38 million US, finished with 10. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tennis

Raonic tops Chardy in Paris

Canadian Milos Raonic reached the third round of the Paris Masters with a 6-7(4), 7-6(4), 6-3 victory over Jeremy Chardy on Wednesday.

Raonic kept his hopes alive for a late spot in the eight-man field at the World Tour Finals in London, which starts Monday. The 21-year-old Raonic must reach the Sunday final in Paris and then hope for the right combination of results from other contenders for the last two spots in the event. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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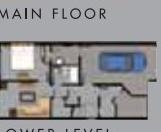
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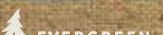
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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

At some stage today, you will have to admit that you got it wrong about someone to whom you took a disliking. It seems they are not so bad after all. Who knows, given time you may even become friends.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Someone in a position of power will make things happen for you, and you should be suitably grateful. Your path to the top will be a lot smoother if you become friends with people who can open doors for you.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you are on the move today, you will enjoy your journey more if you travel with like-minded people. Be adventurous but be friendly too. You won't have to try too hard to make a good impression.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

If you need to get back on good terms with someone you have fallen out with, now is the time to work things out. Don't let your pride stop you from making the first move. Soon you will be best buddies again.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

If you are looking for a new love, you may find it over the next 24 hours. However, as romance planet Venus opposes changes planet, Uranus, it may not be long-lasting, so don't take it too seriously.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Strive to stay on good terms with people you have to work with on a day-to-day basis. The last thing you want is to fall out with someone whose presence you cannot avoid. Be nice. It's not so difficult.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You need to talk over your differences with a loved one who has been difficult to get along with of late. Most likely the cause of their annoyance is petty and easily resolved. Approach them about it today.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Because you don't like to let strangers see your vulnerable side, you can at times seem a bit hard and emotionally distant. What happens today will show your caring, sharing side. Some may be surprised it exists!

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

No matter how much you know or think you know, there is always something new to learn and what you discover today could change your life in so many ways. Never stop loving, laughing and learning.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

There is no point worrying too much about your cash flow but on the other hand you cannot afford to ignore it completely. Changes (and savings) need to be made but they don't have to be excessive.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

No matter how ambitious you may be, you know it is never right to take advantage of other people to get to the top. Someone you work with needs to be reminded of that fact today — maybe quite sharply.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Forget about what might have been. Think only about what will be. There is no point feeling regret or remorse. It won't change a thing. Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Use it and enjoy it.

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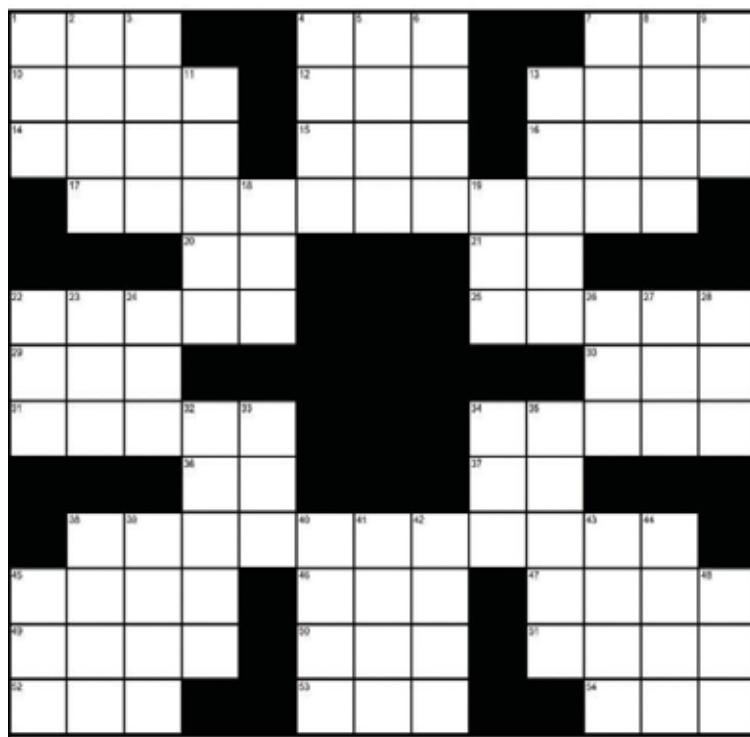
Canadian Crossword

Across

1. Pigs abode
4. Response to a ques.
7. Resort
10. Blouse or skirt line
12. — Paulo, Brazil
13. Nova
14. Allowance
15. Feel poorly
16. Army vehicle
17. Winter happenings (2 words)
20. "Shall — Dance"
21. Weatherman Roker
22. Rent
25. Actor/Director Woody —
29. Actress Dolenz
30. Food for Mister Ed
31. A great lake
34. Due —
36. South Carolina neighbour (abbr.)
37. Et —, Brute
38. Varieties
45. Healing lotion
46. Mineral
47. Gab
49. Ernie's buddy
50. Pub
51. Merit
52. File extension
53. Ogle
54. Embroider

Down

1. Supersonic jet
2. Afternoon socials
3. Kitten plaything
4. Quickly
5. Hammer partner
6. By oneself
7. Ollie's partner
8. Agony
9. Noah's vessel
11. Cat's cries
13. Yet
18. Tiny
19. Babies cry
22. — de dah
23. Australian bird
24. The Fresh Prince of Bel —
26. Ed Asner role on The Mary Tyler Moore Show
27. Consume
28. Ultimate degree
32. Beginning
33. Non-commissioned Officer (abbr.)
34. Sault — Marie
35. An — of prevention....
38. Jeopardy host
39. Achy
40. Judge's garment
41. Waiter's burden
42. Only
43. — 70's Show
44. Gilbert of The Talk
45. President Lincoln, to some
48. Dynamite



Yesterday's Crossword



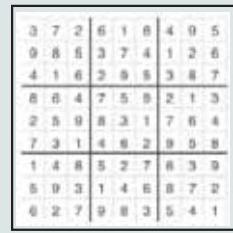
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at metronews.ca/
answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's Sudoku



1		3	2
4		6	3
9	6	8	7
7	6		9
			8
		2	
8		4	
			3
2	4	1	8
6	3		5
		1	7
			9



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